

Congressional Update



Congressman Mark DeSaulnier

October 23, 2018

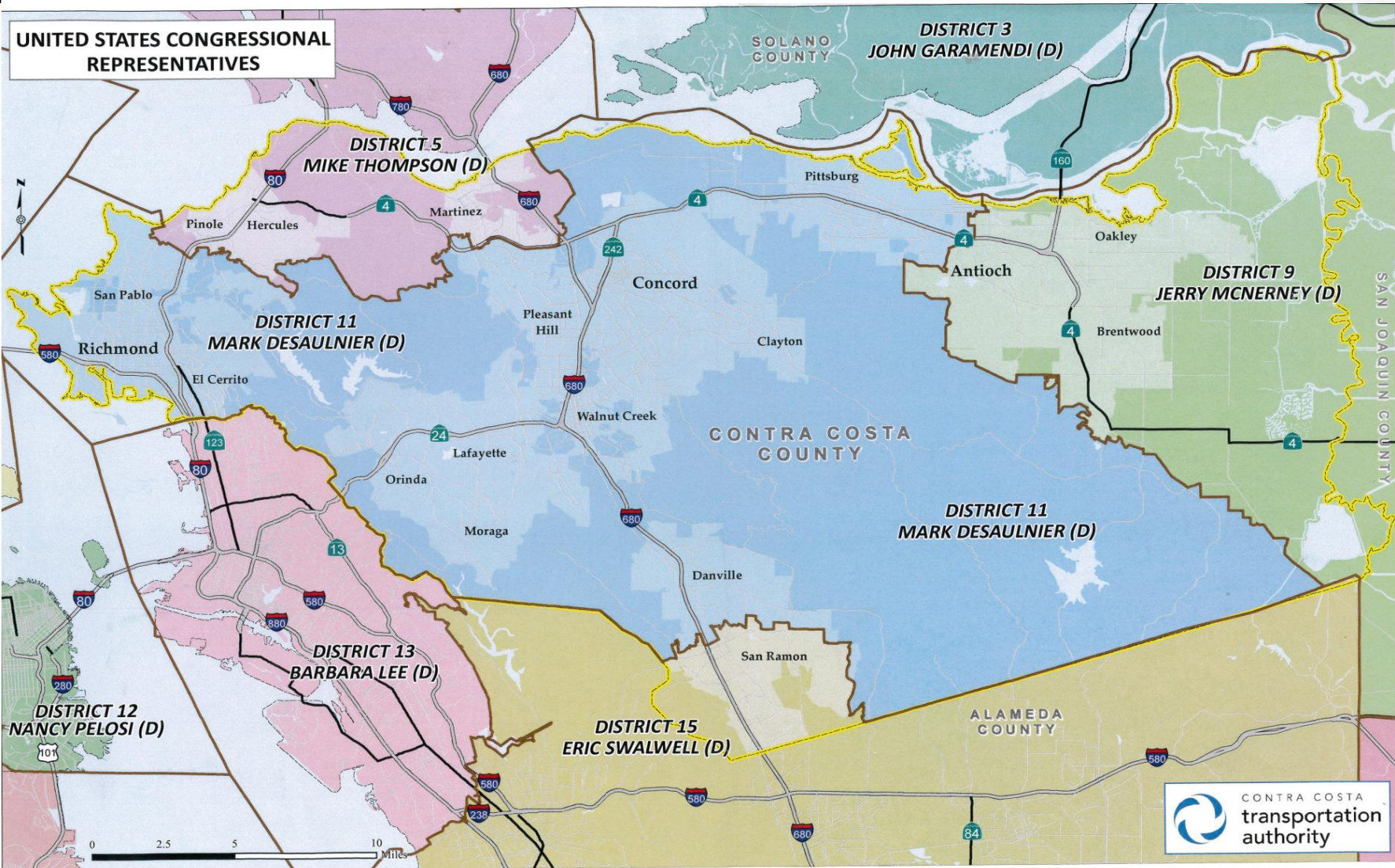
Hosted **74** Town Halls & Mobile District Office Hours

2015	2016	2017		2018	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concord Richmond Danville Pleasant Hill Rossmoor El Cerrito Orinda Clayton San Pablo Pittsburg Pacheco 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walnut Creek San Pablo Antioch Facebook Richmond Danville Orinda Rossmoor Concord Pittsburg El Cerrito Martinez 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facebook Martinez Pleasant Hill Antioch Richmond Lafayette Telephone Telephone Danville 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moraga Richmond Concord Pittsburg Facebook Walnut Creek Telephone Facebook Orinda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> El Cerrito Facebook Martinez San Pablo Pleasant Hill Lafayette Concord Antioch Moraga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> San Pablo Danville Facebook Moraga Concord Concord Walnut Creek Martinez Richmond

Mobile District Office Hours

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> El Cerrito Pittsburg Bay Point 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walnut Creek Richmond Lafayette 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> El Cerrito Moraga Martinez 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walnut Creek Bay Point Kensington 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walnut Creek Walnut Creek Walnut Creek
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Map of the Congressional District (CA-11)



In The News

Recent Administration Actions

- Judge Kavanaugh's nomination and subsequent defense and confirmation
- Inability to have reunited all children who were separated from their parents, and moving children to tent cities
- Departure of 35+ senior Administration officials, including 3 Cabinet Secretaries (VA, State, HHS) and most recently U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Nikki Haley

DeSaulnier Efforts:

- **Voted twice to advance impeachment proceedings for President Trump**
- Joined efforts to **oppose Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation based on his judicial record and the credible accusations against him**
- Sent letter to HHS Secretary asking him to **properly care for immigrant children** in HHS's care

Aviation Safety

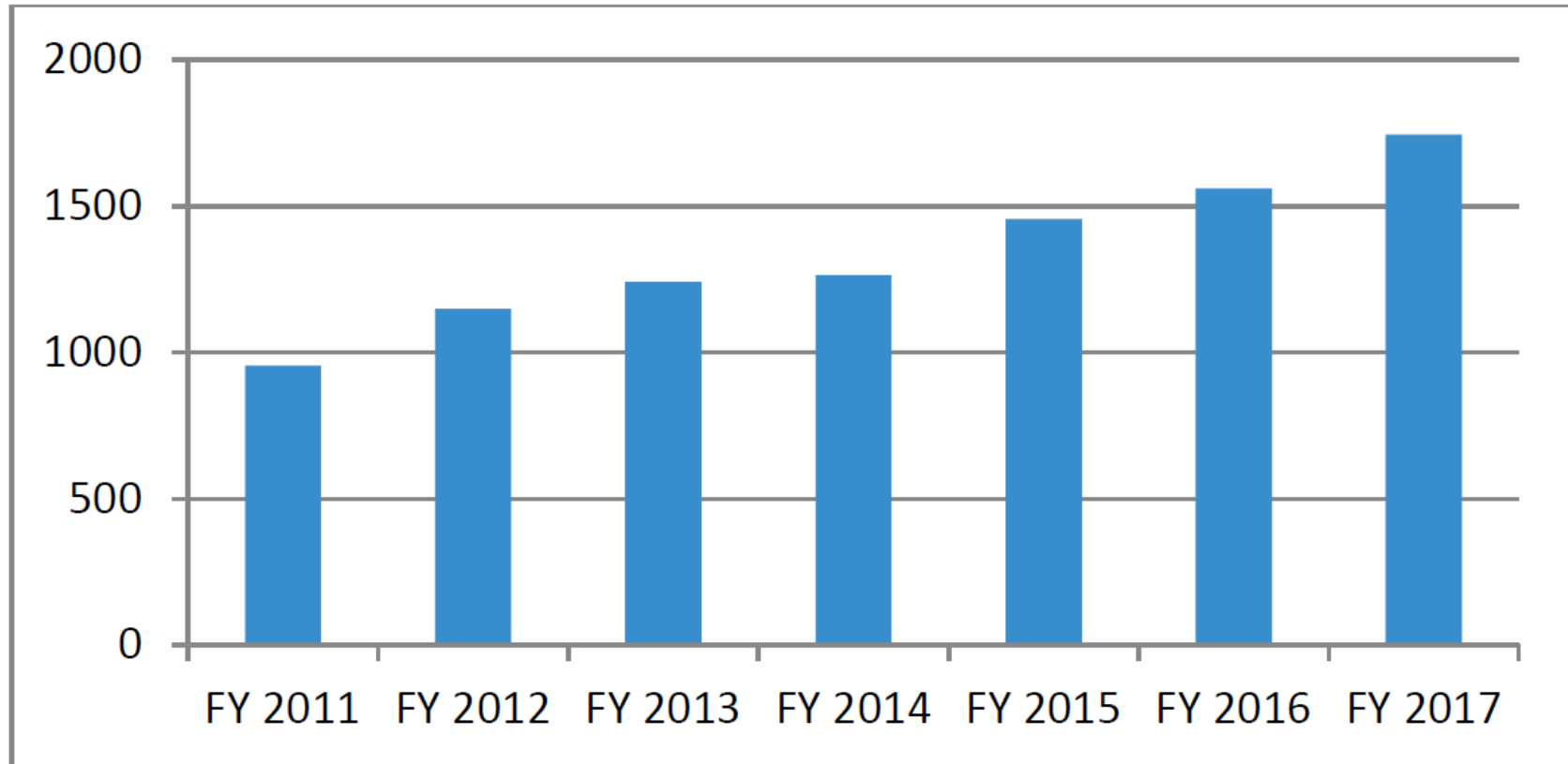
Close Calls at SFO & Other Airports

- Our nation's air travel system is world class. **The number of accidents has steadily declined and our system is safe**
- However, the number of runway incursions **increased 83%** between 2011 and 2017

DeSaulnier Efforts:

- **Passed 4 amendments into law to take proactive steps to address safety gaps**
- Asked GAO to review gaps in aviation safety and make recommendations to Congress
- Pressed FAA, NTSB to investigate close calls at airports and improve airplane landing safety
- Called on Transportation Committee to investigate aviation safety
 - Hearing was held on **February 27th**

Total Number of Runway Incursions Fiscal Years 2011-2017



Source: OIG analysis

Immigration

- At least 2,300 children were separated from their parents
 - 400+ children still have not been reunited
- Courts have ruled that the Administration must continue to accept renewals → **This is not a permanent solution**
- Dreamers will contribute **\$460.3 billion to the U.S. gross domestic product** over the next decade
- **Speaker Ryan will not allow a vote on immigration reform**

DeSaulnier Efforts:

- **Support Dream Act** to provide a path to citizenship for Dreamers
- Signed discharge petition to **force a vote on immigration in the House**
- Sent letters to ICE **opposing targeted immigration raids** in Northern California
- Support at least 5 bills **opposing family separation at the border**

Tax Bill

- Last major tax reform: 1986
 - **President:** Ronald Reagan
 - **Speaker of the House:** Thomas “Tip” O’Neill (D-MA)
 - **Senate President Pro Tem:** Strom Thurmond (R-SC)
 - Bipartisan effort in both House and Senate
 - Almost 11 months between introduction and it being signed into law (in contrast, H.R. 1 introduced 11/2/17 signed into law on 12/22/17)
- Since 1986, the U.S. tax code has gone from less than 30,000 pages to over 70,000 pages
- The amount of credits, loopholes, and deductions has increased by 44 percent, from \$844 billion (2013 dollars), to over \$1.2 trillion (2013 dollars)

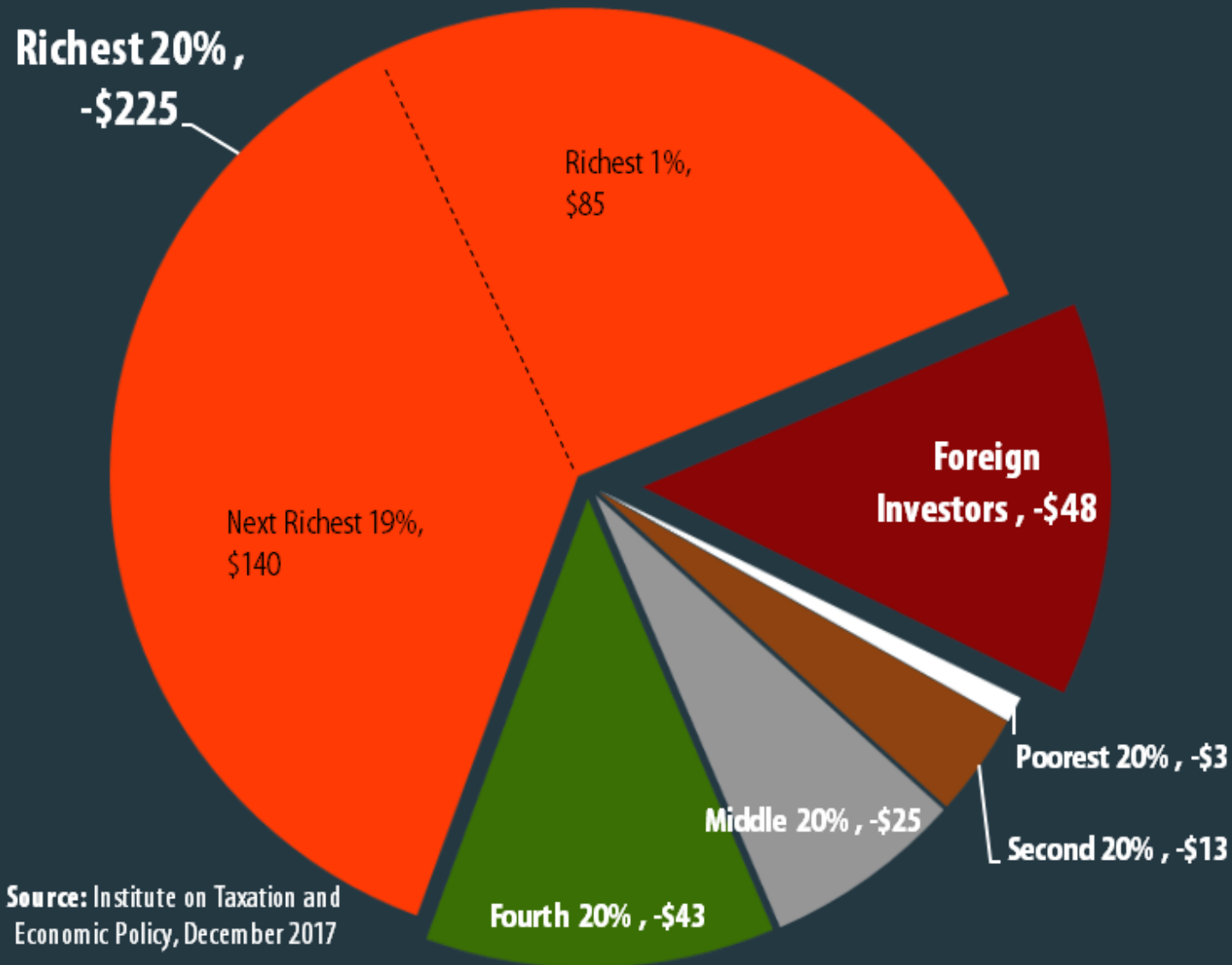
Tax Bill

- **Adds \$1.8 trillion to debt** over 10 years (CBO)
- **83% of the tax cuts go to the wealthiest 1%** (Tax Policy Center)
- Raises taxes on **86 million middle class families**
- \$1.3 trillion (permanent) tax break for corporations
- Massive tax rate cut from **35% to 21% for corporations**
- **Repeal of the “individual mandate”**
 - Will result in 13 million people losing health coverage
 - Without the individual mandate, premiums estimated to increase by 10% per year

DeSaulnier Efforts:

- Called for maintaining **State and Local Tax (SALT) deduction**
- **Voted against** Republican tax bill (H.R. 1) and its permanent extension (H.R. 6760)

Trump-GOP Tax Plan in 2019: Who Benefits and How Much (in billions)



Richest 1% of Taxpayers Receive the Largest Average Tax Cut Under the Revised Senate Plan in 2027, the Average Taxpayer in the Bottom 60% Faces a Tax Hike

Includes Impact of ACA Individual Mandate Repeal



Tax Bill – California Impacts

- Mortgage Interest Deduction – currently capped on debt of \$1,000,000; new law reduces cap to \$750,000
- Home Equity Loan Interest Deduction Eliminated
- State and Local Tax Deductions – limited to \$10,000
 - Average deduction in 2015 in our district: **\$18,672**, with **44% of households claiming the deduction**
 - Pressure on states and local governments to cut taxes and cut back on services

Final GOP-Trump Tax Bill Gives Larger Tax Cuts to Upper-Income California Residents in 2019, Raises Taxes on Low-and Middle-Income Residents in 2027

Tax Change as a Share of Income in 2019 and 2027, Includes Impact of ACA Individual Mandate Repeal



INSTITUTE ON TAXATION AND ECONOMIC POLICY • ITEP.ORG

Gun Violence

- Gun violence claims over **30,000 lives annually** in the United States
- The U.S. firearm homicide rate is **20 times higher** than the combined rates of 22 comparable countries
- Americans make up about **4.4% of the global population**, but own **42% of the world's guns**.
- Gun industry annual net profit: **\$1.5 billion**
 - Annual cost of gun violence: **\$290 billion**
- Since 2003, state and local governments have given more than **\$120 million in tax subsidies** to at least seven major firearms companies

DeSaulnier Efforts:

- **Lifetime “F” score from the NRA**
- **Never accepted donations from the NRA**
- **Drafting bill** to create Gun Safety Board
- **Authored 2 bills and 1 amendment** to help reduce gun violence
- **Supported 34 gun violence prevention bills**
- **Joined effort** to force a vote on universal background checks

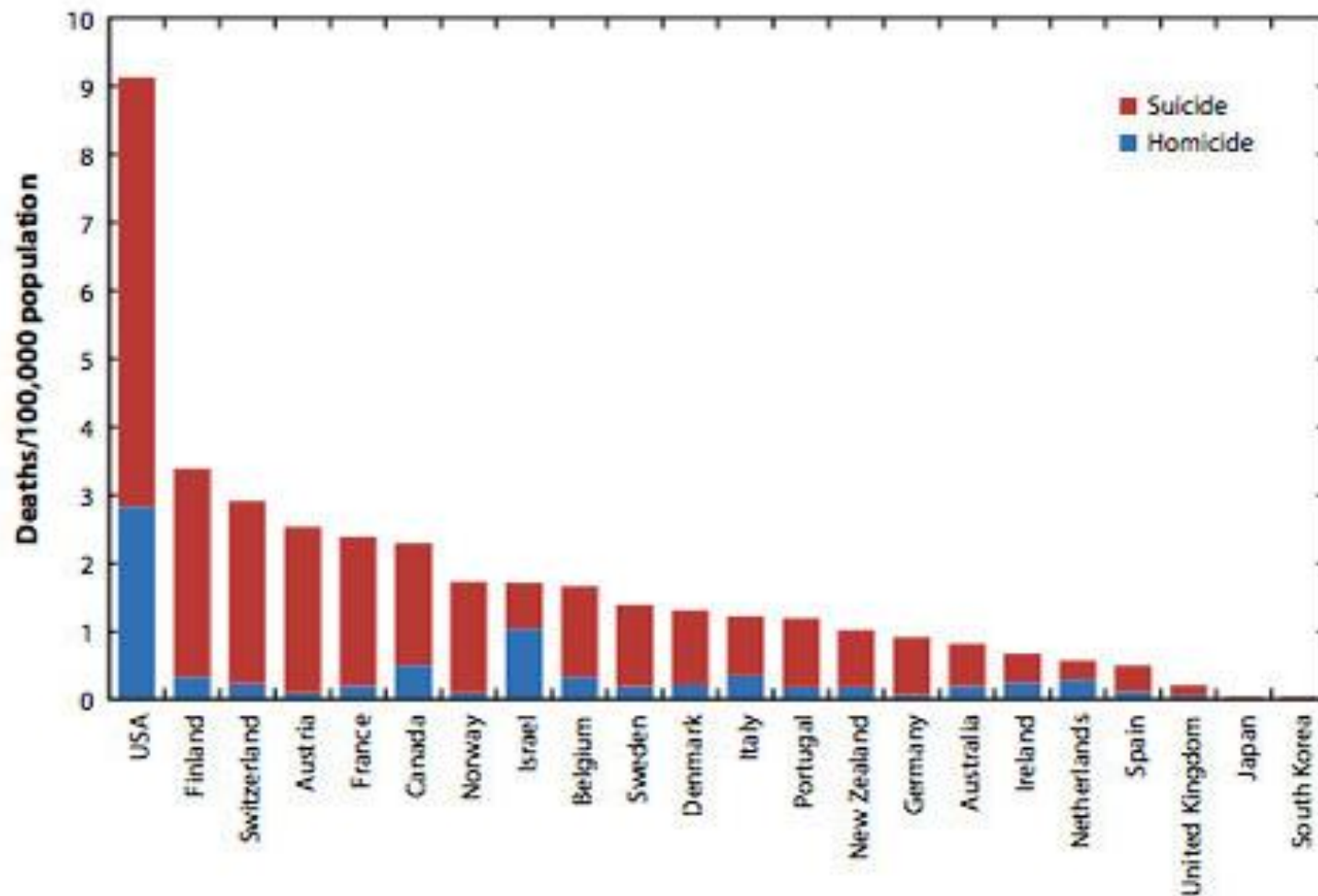
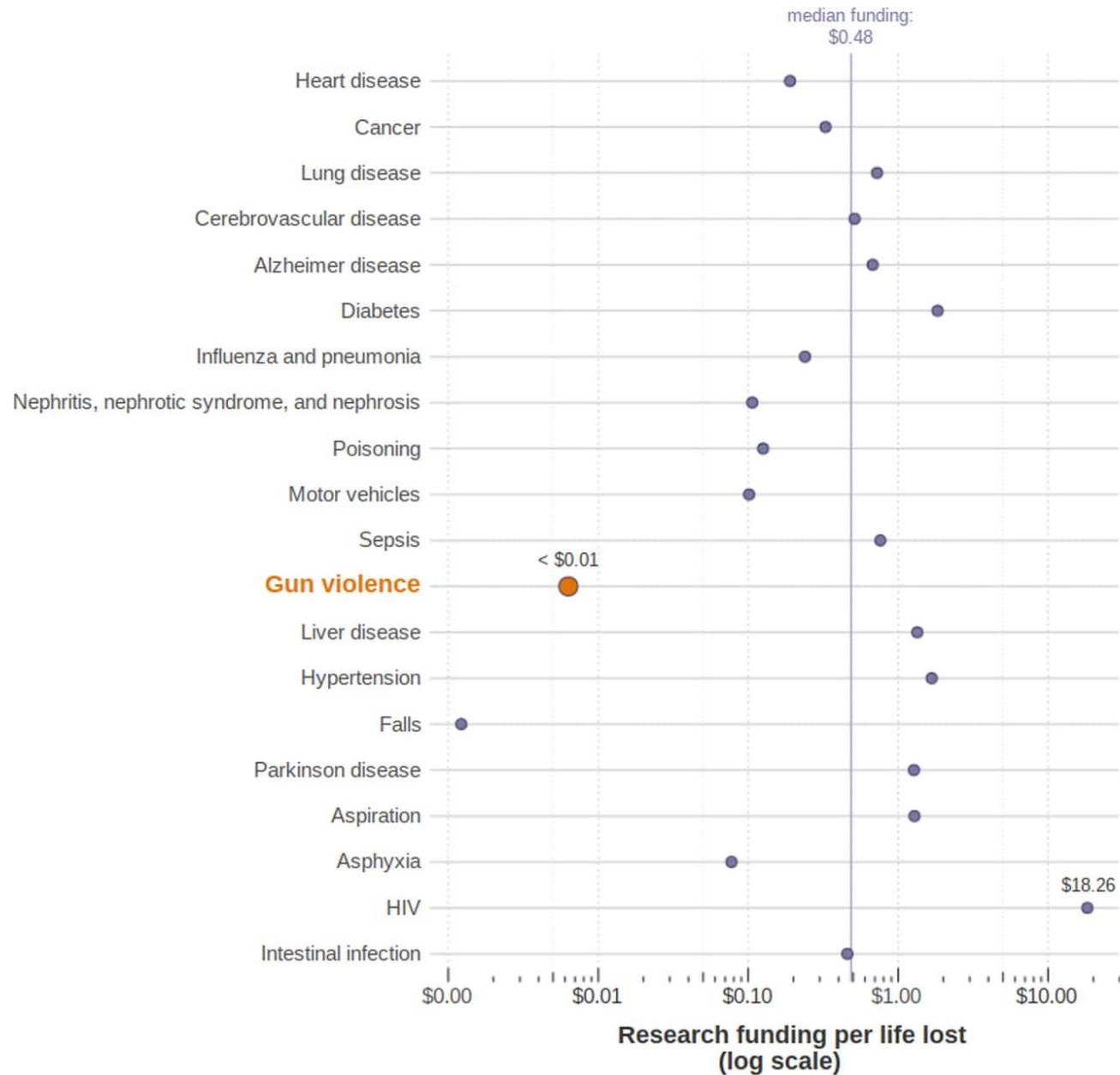


Figure 11

Mortality rates for firearm suicide and homicide for selected members of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. Data available at the GunPolicy.org website, <http://www.gunpolicy.org> (accessed August 28, 2014).

Gun Violence Receives Less Federal Research Funding Than Most of the Top 20 Causes of Death in the United States



Source: Stark, 2017.

Leading in Congress

Congressional Actions

20 initiatives enacted into law, including efforts to:

- Expand John Muir National Historic Site
- Make our air travel system safer and more efficient
- Empower pharmacists to fight the opioid crisis

16 legislative efforts passed the House and Committee including efforts to:

- Better fund affordable housing and research on doctor-patient communication
- Ensure that no regulation rollbacks harm public health

Caucuses & Initiatives:

- **Future of Work Wages and Labor**
- **Bipartisan Cancer Survivors Caucus, *Founder & Co-Chair***
- **Urban Regional Studies Caucus, *Founder***

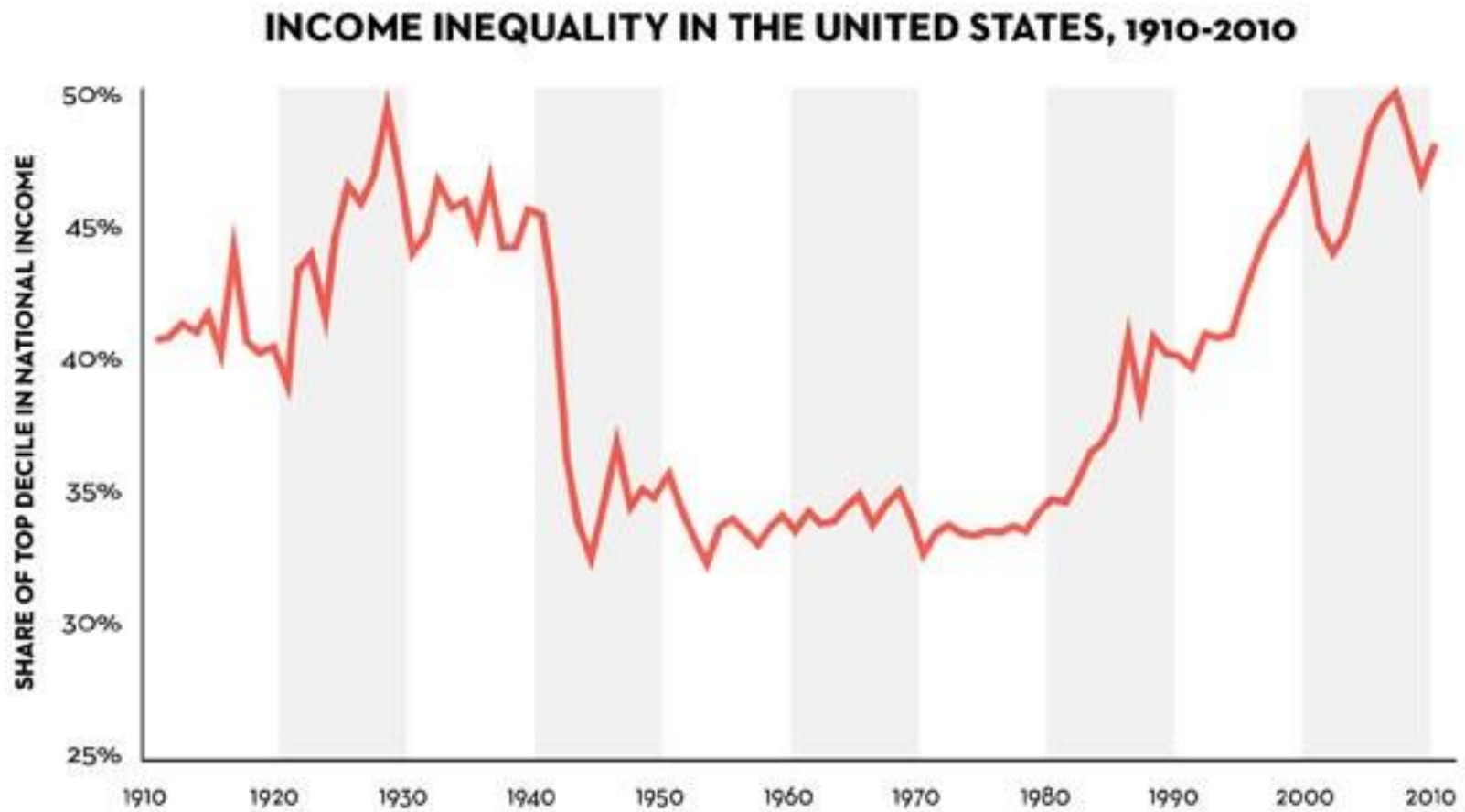
DeSaulnier Efforts on Cancer

- **Co-founder of the bipartisan Cancer Survivors Caucus**
- **Introduced bipartisan Patient Navigation Assistance Act** with Rep. Ted Poe (R-TX) to help at-risk Americans have access to patient navigation services
- **Introduced bipartisan Cancer Care Planning and Communications Act** with Rep. Ted Poe (R-TX) to improve doctor-patient communication by enabling access for more patients to cancer treatment plans
- **Hosted two Cancer Moonshot Events** – 375 people attended
- Held a roundtable with **the President of the Biden Cancer Initiative – Greg Simon** to discuss cancer care in America
- Member meeting with the **Director of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) – Dr. Ned Sharpless** to discuss the future of cancer care

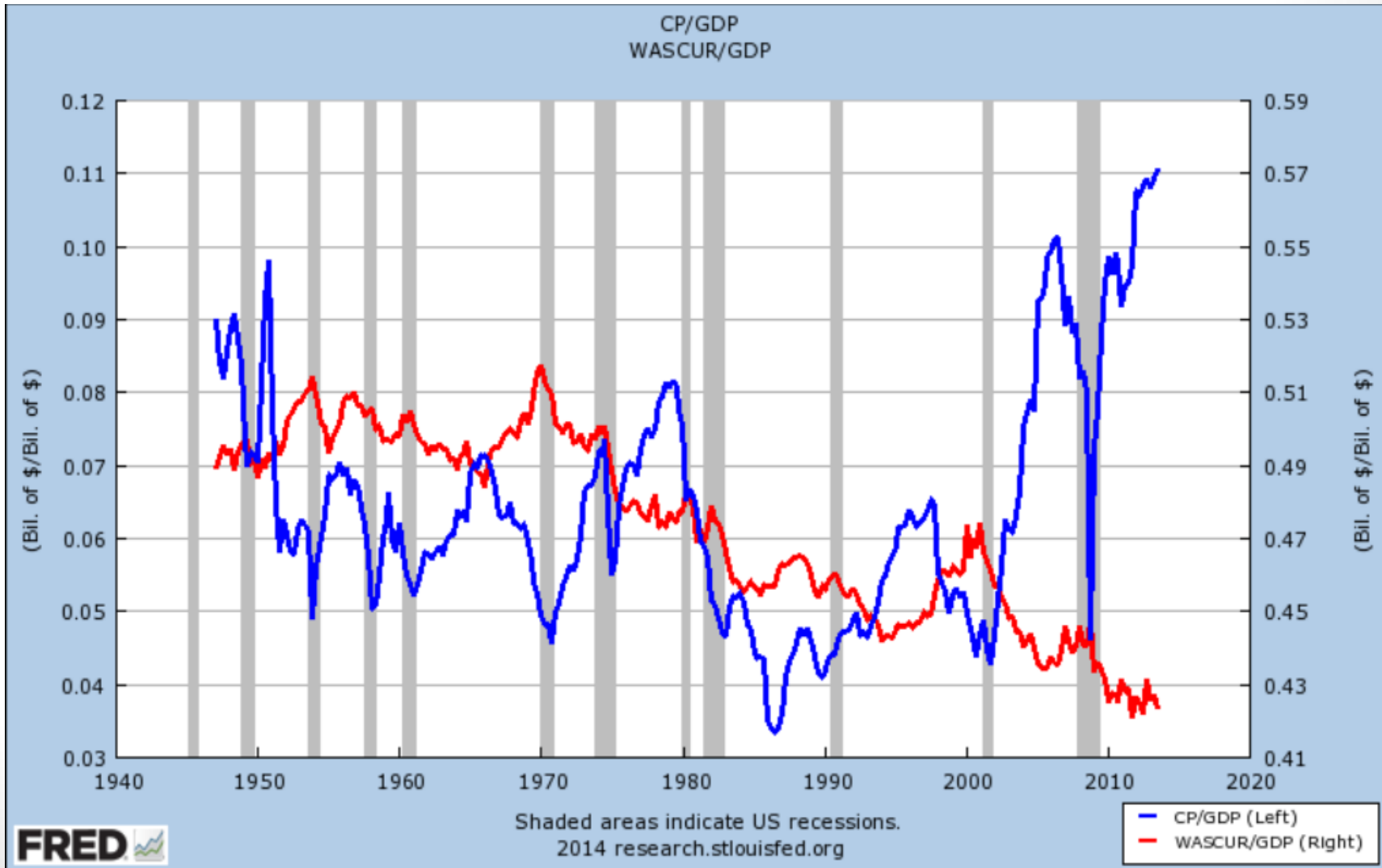
Future of Work, Wages, and Labor

- Led 3 Members to explore the problems facing workers and identify solutions
 - 2.5+ years
 - 30 policy recommendations
 - 5 regional meetings
 - 100+ experts consulted
- Key policy recommendations:
 - Overturn *Citizens United*
 - Ban stock buybacks
 - Strengthen antitrust enforcement
 - Curb executive pay
 - Update WARN Act

Inequality



Wage Vs. Profit Share of GDP

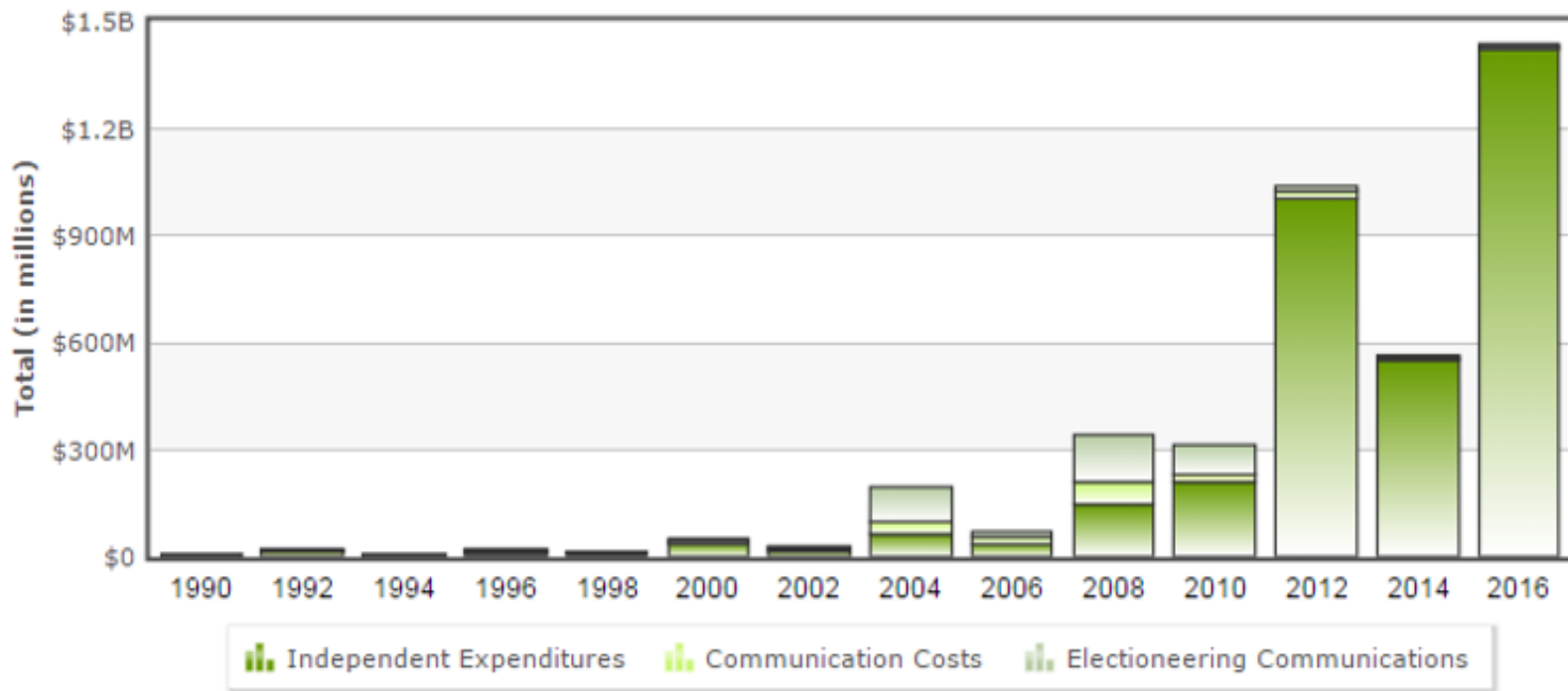


Campaign Finance

- **The 2016 election cycle was the most expensive election on record**, with over \$6.9 billion spent on the Presidential and Congressional elections combined, a 120% increase over the 2000 elections
- The cost of Congressional elections has spiked even further, with over \$4.2 billion spent in 2016, **a 155% increase from the 2000 elections**
- The *Government by the People Act* would encourage public financing of political campaigns to:
 - Provide citizens with a campaign contribution credit to let their voice be heard and
 - Gives candidates an incentive to seek out small donors

Campaign Finance

Outside Spending by Cycle, Excluding Party Committees



Our Office



2018 FINALIST | **CONSTITUENT SERVICE**

“Rep. DeSaulnier and his staff are to be congratulated for not only being a model for colleagues in Congress, but for helping to restore trust and faith that our democratic institutions can work.”

– Bradford Fitch, **President and CEO of the Congressional Management Foundation**

*DeSaulnier’s office was one out of six in Congress (3 Democrats, 3 Republicans) selected for this award.

Performance Standards

- The private sector uses performance metrics and standards to gauge businesses' efficiency and effectiveness, using collected data to hold leaders accountable and perfect their business model over time
- Performance measures in the public sector are critical to ensuring that hard-earned taxpayer dollars are spent in the most effective manner
 - *Metropolitan Planning Enhancement Act (H.R. 3787)*
 - *Transportation Megaprojects Accountability and Oversight Act (H.R. 4228)*
- Internal office performance metrics include:
 - **Meeting Requests:** If you request a meeting, expect to receive a response within 24-hours
 - **Correspondence:** Emails and letters received in our office will be sent a response within 5 business days of receipt
 - **Casework:** Requests for assistance through our website or by phone will receive a phone call within 24-hours
 - **Tours & Flags:** Requests submitted through our website will receive a phone call within 24-hours

Contact Our Office

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Congressional Website:

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